



96 Alden Avenue
Enfield, CT 06082

March 3, 2012

To the State of Connecticut Education Committee

Re: H.B. 5354 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING ATHLETIC DIRECTORS AND INCORPORATING
PHYSICAL ACTIVITY INTO THE SCHOOL DAY

Members of the Connecticut Education Committee:

Our food bank is one of the largest north of Hartford and provides food assistance and information about healthy eating and physical activity to families receiving our help. An average of 424 families visit our facility weekly. 64% of these families have children. These children often do not eat nutritious meals and lack opportunities for physical activity in recreation programs or their neighborhoods. The negative impact of these factors on the children is well documented, poses serious health consequences, and affects learning.

The Enfield Food Shelf, Inc. enthusiastically endorses H.B. 5354 because the promotion of at least 20 minutes of daily physical activity for children in grades K-5 provides an initial response to the aforementioned factors and serves as a model for implementation beyond school hours.

This policy change is a very positive first step for the children of Connecticut.

Respectfully submitted,

Roger C. LeBlanc

Roger C. LeBlanc, President/Volunteer
Enfield Food Shelf – Board of Directors

"In accordance with Federal Law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, the Enfield Food Shelf, Inc. is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability."